

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 22, 2007. By this Amendment, claims 31-41 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 42-49 have been added. Accordingly, claims 23-30 and 42-49 are now pending, with claims 23 and 42 being in independent form.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 23-30 are allowable over the art of record.

Claims 31-33 and 37-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,950,207 to Mortimore et al. or U.S. Patent 5,971,923 to Finger. Claims 34-36, 40 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious from Mortimore et al. or Finger.

Without conceding the propriety of the rejections, claims 31-41 have been deleted without prejudice. New claims 42-49 are method claims that correspond closely with allowed claims 23-30, respectively and are believed to be patentable for at least similar reasons.

Since the present Amendment After Final Rejection cancels all of the remaining rejected claims and adds claims which are very clearly patentable over the cited art which can be confirmed by the Examiner with no more than a cursory review of the amendment, its entry is believed proper and is respectfully requested.

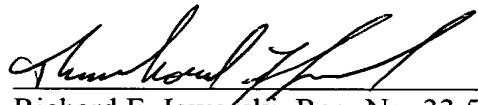
In view of the amendments to the claims and remarks hereinabove, Applicants submit the present application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants earnestly solicit the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any

fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard F. Jaworski", is written over a horizontal line.

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